#### BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements
With Independent Auditor's Report
As of and for the Year Ended
June 30, 2012
With Supplemental Information Schedules

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

# Annual Financial Statements With Independent Auditor's Report As of and for the Year Ended June 30, 2012 With Supplemental Information Schedules

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Member Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

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#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court, a component unit of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, as of June 30, 2012, and for the year then ended, which collectively comprise the Clerk's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position and major fund of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court as of June 30, 2012, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 6 through 9, the budgetary comparison information on pages 30 through 31, and the schedule of funding progress for the retiree healthcare plan on page 32 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical contest. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with managements's responses to my inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge I obtained during my audit of the basic financial statements. I do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide me with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Benton, Louisiana Independent Auditor's Report, June 30, 2012

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's office basic financial statements as a whole. The supplemental information schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, I have also issued a report dated September 21, 2012, on the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's compliance with laws and regulations, and my consideration of the agency's internal control over financial reporting. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of my audit.

West Monroe, Louisiana September 21, 2012

# REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION PART I

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

### Management's Discussion and Analysis June 30, 2012

As management of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court, I offer readers of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. Please read it in conjunction with the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

#### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This Management Discussion and Analysis document introduces the Clerk's basic financial statements. The annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities (Government-wide Financial Statements) provide information about the financial activities as a whole and illustrate a longer-term view of the Clerk of Court's finances. The Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Fund (Fund Financial Statements) tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund Financial Statements also report the operations in more detail than the Government-Wide Financial Statements by providing information about the most significant funds. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Our auditor has provided assurance in her independent auditor's report that the Basic Financial Statements are fairly stated. The auditor, regarding the Required Supplemental Information and the Supplemental Information is providing varying degrees of assurance. A user of this report should read the independent auditor's report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each of the other parts in the Financial Section.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (for example, earned, but unused, sick leave).

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court,

like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary (agency) funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court adopts an annual appropriated budget for the general fund. A budgetary comparison statement is provided for the major fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary (agency) funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Since these resources are not available to support the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's programs, Fiduciary (agency) funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statement.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Other Information.** In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain *required supplementary information* concerning the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's performance.

The combining schedules for nonmajor governmental funds are presented immediately following the required supplementary information.

#### **Government-wide Financial Analysis**

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At the close of the most recent fiscal year, assets of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court exceeded liabilities by \$1,989,407. Approximately 4% of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's net assets reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These assets are not available for future spending.

The balance in unrestricted net assets is affected by two factors: 1) resources expended, over time, by the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court to acquire capital assets from sources other than internally generated funds (i.e., debt), and 2) required depreciation on assets.

#### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

	2012	2011
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,935,679	\$1,820,442
Investments	477.899	477,152
Receivables	167,585	113,687
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	80,440	105,925
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$2,661,603</u>	\$2,517,206
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$10,005	\$82,137
Net OPEB obligation	662,191	444,145
TOTAL LIABILITIES	672,196	526,282
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	80,440	105,925
Unrestricted	<u>1,908,967</u>	1,884,999
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>\$1,989,407</u>	\$1,990,924
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES		
	2012	2011
Judicial:	2012	
Personal services	\$2,710,457	\$2,720,703
Operating services	126,463	442,338
Materials and supplies	166,148	188,733
Travel	1,749	5,647
Depreciation expense	35,239	111,609
Total Program Expenses	3,040,056	3,469,030
Program revenues:		
License and permits	17,978	15,078
Court cost, fees, and charges	1,266,369	1,147,967
Fees for recording legal documents	1,403,434	1,138,477
Fees for certified copies of documents	263,073	232,463
Non support	74,143	68,096
Miscellaneous fees	2,066 3,027,063	1,799 2,603,880
Total program revenues  Net Program Expenses	(12,993)	(865,150)
General revenues:	(12,793)	(005,150)
Interest carned	11,476	32,649
State grant	11,470	108.840
•	(1,517)	(723,661)
Change in Net Assets Net Assets Paginning of year	1,990,924	2,714,585
Net Assets - Beginning of year	<u>1,990,924</u> <u>\$1,989,407</u>	\$1,990,924
Net Assets - End of year	<u> </u>	<u>\$1,770,724</u>

## Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The focus of the governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of expendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of June 30, 2012, the General Fund unreserved, undesignated fund balance of \$2,571,158 showed an increase of \$242.014 over June 30, 2011.

## **General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

Differences between revenues of the original budget and the final budget were due primarily to an increase in court costs, fees for recording, fees for recordings, and a decrease in interest. Differences between expenditures of the original budget and the final budget were due to an increase in personal services and materials and supplies, and a decrease in operating services.

## **Capital Asset and Debt Administration**

Capital assets. The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2012, amounts to \$80,440 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment includes furniture and equipment. The increase in capital assets for the year was \$9,754, and there were no decreases.

Long-term debt. The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court contributes to a single-employer defined benefit healthcare plan ("the Retiree Health Plan"). The plan provides lifetime healthcare insurance for eligible retirees through the clerk's group health insurance plan. Net OPEB obligation associated with the Retiree Health Plan at June 30, 2012 is \$662,191. The clerks contribution for the year was \$74,349.

#### **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court, P.O. Box 430, Benton, LA 71006-0430.

September 21, 2012

**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

\$1,989,407

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

# STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS June 30, 2012

ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,935,679
Investments	477,899
Receivables - fees, charges, and commissions	167,585
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	80,440
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$2,661,603</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	\$10,005
Net OPEB obligation	662,191_
TOTAL LIABILITIES	672,196
NET ASSETS	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	80,440
Unrestricted	1,908,967

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

TOTAL NET ASSETS

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES June 30, 2012

Judicial:	
Personal services	\$2,710,457
Operating services	126,463
Materials and supplies	166,148
Travel	1,749
Depreciation expense	35,239
Total Program Expenses	3,040,056
Program revenues:	
License and permits	17,978
Court cost, fees, and charges	1,266,369
Fees for recording legal documents	1,403,434
Fees for certified copies of documents	263,073
Non support	74,143
Miscellaneous fees	<u>2,066</u>
Total program revenues	3,027,063
Net Program Expenses	(12,993)
General revenues:	
Interest earned	<u>11,476</u>
Change in Net Assets	(1,517)
Net Assets - Beginning of year	1,990,924
Net Assets - End of year	<u>\$1,989,407</u>

#### Statement C

### BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Balance Sheet, June 30, 2012

	GENERAL FUND
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,935,679
Investments	477,899
Receivables - fees, charges, and commissions	<u>167,585</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$2,581,163</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	
Liabilities -	
Accounts payable	\$10,005
Fund Equity - fund balances - unassigned	2,571,158
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	\$2,581,163

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

## Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Assets

## For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

Total Fund Balances at June 30, 2012 - Governmental Funds (Statement C)		\$2,571,158
Cost of capital assets at June 30, 2012	\$1,404,219	
Less: Accumulated depreciation as of June 30, 2012	(1,323,779)	80,440
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are no	:	
reported in the funds.		(662,191)
Net Assets at June 30, 2012 (Statement A)		\$1,989,407

### BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances

For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$2,571,158</u>
FUND BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	2,329,144
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	242,014
Total expenditures	<u>2,796,525</u>
Capital outlay	9,754
Travel and other charges	1,749
Materials and supplies	166,148
Operating services	126,463
Personal services	2,492,411
General government - judicial:	
Current:	
EXPENDITURES	
Total revenues	3,038,539
Use of money and property - interest earnings	11,476_
Miscellaneous	2,066
Non Support	74,143
Fees for certified copies of documents	263,073
Fees for recording legal documents	1,403,434
Court costs, fees, and charges	1,266,369
Fees, charges, and commissions for services:	
Licenses and permits - marriage	\$17,978
REVENUES	

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

## Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities

## For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

Total net change in fund balances - governmental funds (Statement D)	\$242,014
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceed depreciation for the period.	(25,485)
Payments of long-term debt, including contributions to OPEB obligation, are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. However, those amounts are a reduction of long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Assets and are not reflected in the Statement of Activities.	(218,046)
Change in net assets of governmental activities (Statement B)	(\$1,517)

# Statement E

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets - Agency Funds

June 30, 2012

	ADVANCE DEPOSIT	REGISTRY OF COURT	NON SUPPORT	TOTAL
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,115,796	\$2,721,811	\$140,137	\$4,977,744
Investments	125,000			125,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,240,796	\$2,721,811	\$140,137	\$5,102,744
LIABILITIES				
Unsettled deposits held for others	\$2,240,796	\$2,721,811	\$140,137	\$5,102,744

#### BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements As of and For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As provided by Article V, Section 28 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the clerk of court serves as the ex-officio notary public, the recorder of conveyances, mortgages and other acts, and shall have other duties and powers provided by law. The clerk of court is elected for a term of four years.

The accompanying financial statements of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for State and Local Governments, issued in June 1999.

#### A. REPORTING ENTITY

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the Bossier Parish Police Jury is the financial reporting entity for Bossier Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (police jury), (b) organizations for which primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Bossier Parish Police Jury for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial responsibility. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

- 1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and:
  - a. The ability of the police jury to impose its will on that organization and/or
  - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the police jury.
- 2. Organizations for which the police jury does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the police jury.

Benton, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Because the police jury maintains and operates the parish courthouse in which the clerk of court's office is located and provides partial funding for equipment, furniture and supplies of the clerk of court's office, the clerk of court was determined to be a component unit of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the clerk of court and do not present information on the police jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the Bossier Parish financial reporting entity.

#### **B.** BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENTS

The clerk of court's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the clerk of court as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the clerk's major fund). Both government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business type. All activities of the clerk are classified as governmental.

The Statement of Net Assets (Statement A) and the Statement of Activities (Statement B) display information about the reporting government as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the clerk, except for fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are reported only in the Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets at the fund financial statement level.

In the Statement of Net Assets, governmental activities are presented on a consolidated basis and are presented on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term obligations. Net assets are reported in three parts; invested in capital assets, net of any related debt; restricted net assets; and unrestricted net assets. The clerk first uses restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions.

Benton, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

**Program Revenues** - Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities (Statement B) are derived directly from parties outside the clerk's taxpayers or citizenry. Program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the clerk's general revenues.

Allocation of Indirect Expenses - The clerk reports all direct expenses by function in the Statement of Activities (Statement B). Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a function. Indirect expenses of other functions are not allocated to those functions but are reported separately in the Statement of Activities. Depreciation expense, which can be specifically identified by function, is included in the direct expenses of each function. Depreciation on buildings is assigned to the "general administration" function due to the fact that buildings serve multiple purposes. Interest on general long-term debt is considered an indirect expense and is reported separately on the Statement of Activities.

#### C. BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial transactions of the clerk are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

Fund financial statements report detailed information about the clerk. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column.

A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. Funds are classified into three categories; governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types". Governmental funds are used to account for a government's general activities, where the focus of attention is on the providing of services to the public as opposed to proprietary funds where the focus of attention is on recovering the cost of providing services to the public or other agencies through service charges or user fees. Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held for others. The clerk of court's current operations require the use of only governmental and fiduciary funds. The governmental and fiduciary fund types used by the clerk are described as follows:

### **Governmental Fund Type**

General Fund - The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781, is the principal fund of the clerk of court and is used to account for the operations of the clerk's office. The various fees and charges due to the clerk's office are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

Benton, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Fiduciary Fund Type - Agency Funds

The Advance Deposit, Registry of Court and Child Support Expense agency funds are used to account for assets held as an agent for others. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

#### D. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurement made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

#### 1. Accrual:

Both governmental and business type activities in the government-wide financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

#### 2. Modified Accrual:

The governmental funds financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Governmental funds and the fiduciary type agency funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both measurable and available). Measurable means the amount of the transaction can be determined and available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The clerk considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after the fiscal year end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Benton, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Revenues

Intergovernmental revenue, recordings, cancellations, court attendance, criminal costs, and other fees, charges, and commissions for services are recorded in the year in which they are earned.

Interest income on time deposits is recorded when the time deposits have matured and the income is available.

Substantially all other revenues are recognized when received by the clerk of court.

Based on the above criteria, intergovernmental revenue, recordings, cancellations, court attendance, criminal costs, and other fees, charges, and commissions for services are treated as susceptible to accrual.

#### **Expenditures**

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

#### E. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Under state law, the clerk of court may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At June 30, 2012, the clerk of court has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$6,913,423.

Demand deposits	\$5,604,868
Petty Cash	570
Time deposits	1,307,985
Total	\$6,913,423

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits, or the resulting bank balances, must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times are secured as follows:

Bank Balances	<u>\$7,044,344</u>
Federal deposit insurance	\$255,000
Pledged securities (uncollateralized)	6,910,570
Total	\$7,165,570

Benton, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

Because the pledged securities are held by a custodial bank in the name of the fiscal agent bank rather than in the name of the clerk, they are considered uncollateralized (Category 3) under the provisions of GASB Codification C20.106; however, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the clerk of court that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

#### F. INVESTMENTS

Investments held at June 30, 2012 consist of \$602,899, in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP), a local government investment pool. In accordance with GASB Codification Section 150.126, the investment in LAMP at June 30, 2012 is not categorized in the three risk categories provided by GASB Codification Section 150.125 because the investment is in the pool of funds and therefore not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form.

LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana. Only local government entities having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in accordance with LSA - R.S. 33:2955.

Effective August 1, 2001, LAMP's investment guidelines were amended to permit the investment in government-only money market funds. In its 2001 Regular Session, the Louisiana Legislature (Senate Bill No. 512, Act 701) enacted LSA - R.S. 33:2955(A)(1)(h) which allows all municipalities, parishes, clerks, and any other political subdivisions of the State to invest in "investment grade (A-1/P-1) commercial paper of domestic United States corporations." Effective October 1, 2001, LAMP's Investment Guidelines were amended to allow the limited investment in A-1 or A-1+ commercial paper.

The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value based on quoted market rates. The fair value is determined on a weekly basis by LAMP and the value of the position in the external investment pool is the same as the value of the pool shares.

LAMP, Inc. is subject to the regulatory oversight of the state treasurer and the board of directors. LAMP is not registered with the SEC as an investment company.

Benton, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### G. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The clerk maintains a threshold level of \$1,000 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

Capital assets are reported in the government-wide financial statements but not in the fund financial statements. Since surplus assets are sold for an immaterial amount when declared as no longer needed for public purposes by the clerk, no salvage value is taken into consideration for depreciation purposes. All capital assets, other than land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	Estimated Lives
Buildings and building improvements	20 - 40 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 - 10 years
Vehicles	5 - 15 years
Equipment	5 - 20 years

#### H. ANNUAL AND SICK LEAVE

All employees of the clerk of court's office earn five days of non-cumulative vacation leave after one full year of service, and ten days of vacation leave each year thereafter. Employees are eligible for 12 days of non-cumulative sick leave annually, and up to six weeks of maternity leave. Employees are allowed up to six weeks leave for major surgery.

#### I. RISK MANAGEMENT

The clerk is exposed to various risk of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and injuries to employees. To handle such risk of loss, the clerk maintains commercial insurance policies covering her automobile, professional liability and surety bond coverage. In addition to the above policies, the clerk also maintains an errors and omissions claims paid policy with the Louisiana Clerks of Court Risk Management Agency. No claims were paid on any of the policies during the past three years which exceeded the policies' coverage amounts. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage during the year ended June 30, 2012.

Benton, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### 2. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in office furnishings and equipment follows:

Balance, June 30, 2011	\$1,394,465
Additions	9,754
Deletions	NONE
Balance, June 30, 2012	\$1,404,219
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,323,779)
Net Capital Assets	\$80,440

#### 3. PENSION PLAN

Substantially all employees of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court are members of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund (System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees.

All regular employees who are under the age of 60 at the time of original employment are required to participate in the System. Employees who retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 3 percent of their final-average salary for each year of credited service, not to exceed 100 percent of their final-average salary. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least 12 years of service and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at or after age 55 and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established or amended by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Clerks of Court Retirement and Relief Fund, 11745 Bricksome Avenue, Suite B1, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816, or by calling (225) 293-1162.

Plan members are required by state statute to contribute 8.25 percent of their annual covered salary and the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 17.25 percent of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent (one-half of one percent for Orleans Parish) of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year. The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's contributions to the System for the years ending June 30, 2012, 2011, and 2010, were \$253,416, \$252,283, and \$207,037, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

Benton, Louisiana
Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

#### 4. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS

**Plan Description**. The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's defined benefit postemployment healthcare plan ("the Retiree Healthcare Plan") provides medical, dental and life insurance benefits to eligible retired employees and their beneficiaries. The Retiree Health Plan is affiliated with the Louisiana Clerks of Court Insurance Trust ("LCCIT"), an agent multiple-employer postemployment healthcare plan administered by the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association.

Funding Policy. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Clerk are established and may be amended by the LCCIT board of trustees. The Clerk contributes 100% of the cost of current year premiums for eligible retired plan members and 50% of the cost for retired plan members' spouses and dependent children. For the year ended June 30, 2012, the Bossier Parish Clerk contributed \$74,349 to the plan.

Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligation. For 2012, the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's annual other postemployment benefit ("OPEB") cost (expense) is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer ("ARC"), an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement 45. The ARC represents the level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and to amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed thirty years. The following table shows the components of the clerk's annual OPEB costs for the year, the amount actually contributed to the plan, and changes in the clerk's net OPEB obligation to the retiree health plan.

Annual required contribution	\$283,512
Interest on net OPEB obligation	8,883
Adjustment to annual required contribution	None
Annual OPEB cost (expense)	292,395
Contributions made	(74,349)
Increase in net OPEB obligation	218,046
Net OPEB obligation at beginning of year	444,145
Net OPEB obligation at end of year	<u>\$662,191</u>

The clerk's annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the plan, and the net OPEB obligation for the year ended June 30, 2012, was \$292,395, 26%, and \$662,191, respectively.

Funded Status and Funding Progress. As of June 30, 2010, the actuarial accrued liability for benefits was \$3,378,922, all of which was unfunded. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the plan) was \$1,522,802 and ratio of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability to the covered payroll was 221.89%.

The projection of future benefits for an ongoing plan involves estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include

Benton, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. The schedule of funding progress, presented as required supplementary information following the notes to the financial statements, presents multi-trend information about whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits.

Methods and Assumptions. Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

In the June 30, 2010 actuarial valuation, the entry age actuarial cost method was used. Based on the Clerk's short-term investment portfolio, a discount rate of 4.0% was used. In addition, the actuarial assumptions included an annual healthcare cost trend rate of 10% initially, reduced by decrements to an ultimate rate of 5.5% after 10 years. The Clerk's unfunded actuarial liability is being amortized as a level percentage of projected payroll on an open basis over 30 years.

#### 5. CHANGES IN AGENCY FUND BALANCES

A summary of changes in agency fund balances deposits due others follows:

	Advance Deposit Fund	Registry of Court Fund	Non Support Fund	Total
Balance, July 1, 2011	\$1,945,455	\$2,492,742	\$126,637	\$4,564,834
Additions Deletions	1,834,628 (1,539,287)	819,985 (591,916)	83,501 (70,001)	2,738,114 (2,201,204)
Balance June 30, 2012	\$2,240,796	\$2,720,811	\$140,137	\$5,101,744

#### 6. LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court is not involved in any litigation at June 30, 2012, nor is she aware of any unasserted claims.

Benton, Louisiana Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

# 7. EXPENDITURES OF THE CLERK OF COURT PAID BY THE POLICE JURY

The Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's office is located in the parish courthouse. The cost of maintaining and operating the courthouse, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 33:4715, is paid by the Bossier Parish Police Jury.

# REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION PART II

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

## BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	FINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL (BUDGETARY BASIS)	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
REVENUES				
License and permits	\$14,050	\$15,950	\$17,978	\$2,028
Fees, charges, and commissions for services:				
Court costs, fees, and charges	1,130,730	1,279,180	1,266,369	(12,811)
Fees for recording legal documents	1,285,480	1,380,266	1,403,434	23,168
Fees for certified copies of documents	270,125	260,212	263,073	2,861
Non Support	68,525	67,678	74,143	6,465
Miscellaneous	1,030	2,001	2,066	65
Use of money and property - interest earnings	26,150	<u> 15,770</u>	11,476	(4,294)
Total revenues	2,796,090	3,021,057	3,038,539	17,482
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
General government - judicial				
Personal services and related benefits	2,396,658	2,495,165	2,492,411	2,754
Operating services	306,281	194,692	126,463	68,229
Materials and supplies	137,500	162,326	166,148	(3,822)
Travel and other charges	3,000	1,748	1,749	(1)
Capital outlay	10,000	9,754	9,754	
Total expenditures	2,853,439	2,863,685	2,796,525	67,160
EXCESS (Deficiency) OF REVENUES				
OVER EXPENDITURES	(57,349)	157,372	242,014	84,642
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING				
OF YEAR	2,237,588	2,329,144	2,329,144	NONE
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$2,180,239	\$2,486,516	\$2,571,158	\$84,642

See accompanying note to budgetary comparison schedule.

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

#### NOTE TO BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

A proposed budget, prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, is published in the official journal at least ten days prior to the public hearing. A public hearing is held at the Bossier Parish Clerk's office during the month of June for comments from taxpayers. The budget is then legally adopted by the clerk and amended during the year, as necessary. The budget is established and controlled by the clerk at the object level of expenditure. Appropriations lapse at year-end and must be reappropriated for the following year to be expended.

Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year. Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying budgetary comparison schedule include the original adopted budget amounts and all subsequent amendments.

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## Bossier Parish Clerk of Court Retiree Healthcare Plan June 30, 2012

#### **Schedule of Funding Progress**

		A . A *.1	Unfunded			***
A atronial	A atronial	Actuarial	Actuarial			UAAL as a
Actuarial	Actuarial	Accrued	Accrued	Funded	Coverad	Percentage
Valuation Date	Value of Assets	Liability (AAL)	Liability (UAAL)	Ratio	Covered Payroll	of Covered Payroll
— Date	Assets	(AAL)	(UAAL)			1 ayıon
June 30, 2009	\$0	\$3,378,922	\$3,378,922	0.00%	\$1,522,802	221.89%

#### Note:

Generally accepted governmental accounting principles (GASB Codification Po50.131-132) require that the schedule present information from the last three actuarial valuations. Because the requirements of GASB 45 were implemented starting with the year ended June 30, 2010, only one year is available. Additional information will be added after the next two valuations. Subsequent to that, information will be presented for the latest three valuations.

# OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION PART III

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULES As of and For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

#### FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE - AGENCY FUNDS

#### ADVANCE DEPOSIT FUND

The Advance Deposit Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:842, accounts for advance deposits on suits filed by litigants. The advances are refundable to the litigants after all costs have been paid.

#### **REGISTRY OF COURT FUND**

The Registry of Court Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:475, accounts for funds which have been ordered by the court to be held until judgement has been rendered in court litigation. Withdrawals of the funds can be made only upon order of the court.

#### NON SUPPORT FUND

The Non Support Fund accounts funds which have been received from the Louisiana Department of Social Services after judgement has been rendered in court litigation. The funds are disbursed to the appropriate bodies and others.

## BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana FIDUCIARY FUND TYPE - AGENCY FUNDS

# Combining Schedule of Changes in Unsettled Balances Due to Taxing Bodies and Others For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

	ADVANCE DEPOSIT FUND	REGISTRY OF COURT FUND	NON SUPPORT FUND	TOTAL
UNSETTLED DEPOSITS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$1,945,455	\$2,493,742	\$126,637	\$4,565,834
ADDITIONS				
Deposits - suits and successions	1,834,628			1,834,628
Appropriations from state			83,501	83,501
Interest earned on investments		941		941
Other additions		819,044		<u>819,044</u>
Total additions	1,834,628	819,985	<u>83,501</u>	2,738,114
Total	3,780,083	3,313,727	210,138	7,303,948
REDUCTIONS				
Clerk's costs to General Fund	845,377		68,154	913,531
Deposits settled to:				
Secretary of State fees	7,940			7,940
Settlements to litigants	331,547	591,916		923,463
Witnesses, appraisers, keepers, etc	38			38
Judicial district fees	67,553			67,553
Appraisers, curators, and keepers	37,434			37,434
Sheriff's fees	217,127		1,847	218,974
Other reductions	32,271			32,271
Total reductions	1,539,287	591,916	70,001	2,201,204
UNSETTLED DEPOSITS AT				
END OF YEAR	\$2,240,796	\$2,721,811	<u>\$140,137</u>	\$5,102,744

# REPORTS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS PART IV

# Independent Auditor's Report Required by Government Auditing Standards

The following independent auditor's report on compliance and internal control over financial reporting is presented in compliance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, issued by the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

Member American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

# MARY JO FINLEY, CPA, INC.

Member Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance Government Auditing Standards

BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

I have audited the basic financial statements of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court, a component unit of the Bossier Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012 and have issued my report thereon dated September 21, 2012. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing my audit, I considered Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exist when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

My consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that I consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Benton Louisiana Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance And Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, etc. June 30, 2012

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Bossier Parish Clerk of Court's basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court, management, and the Legislative Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Although the intended use of these reports may be limited, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

West Monroe, Louisiana

September 21, 2012

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings & Questioned Costs For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

### A. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

- 1. The auditor's report expresses an unqualified opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court.
- 2. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the Bossier Parish Clerk of Court were disclosed during the audit.
- 3. No significant deficiencies relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control.

#### B. FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT

None

# Schedule 5

# BOSSIER PARISH CLERK OF COURT Benton, Louisiana

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings For the Year Ended June 30, 2012

There were no findings reported in the audit report for the year ended June 30, 2011.